

AFDC – Foster Care

DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR SERVICES

This program provides aid payments for children living in foster homes and group-care facilities. The Foster Care caseload consists of cases from both the Department of Children's Services (DCS) (approximately 90%) and Probation (approximately 10%). The cost of Probation related foster care cases is approximately 4.5 times greater than DCS cases due to the higher levels of care required for these juveniles.

There are two funding eligibility criteria in the Foster Care Program, federal (federal, state and county participation) and non-federal (state and county only). Foster Care placements are generally eligible for federal financial participation if the parents meet the previous Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program criteria.

- For federally eligible (federal) cases, the cost-sharing ratios are approximately 43% federal, 22% state, and 35% county.
- For non-federally eligible (non-federal) cases, the cost-sharing ratio is 40% state and 60% county.
- All county share-of-cost is mandated and is reimbursed from Social Services Realignment and the county general fund.

Additionally, this budget unit provides \$1.0 million in funding annually to the Probation Department to assist with the placement costs and case management services for youth placed in the Fouts Springs Youth Facility. This facility is a boot-camp type of facility and is used as a diversionary program for delinquent youth.

There is no staffing associated with this budget unit.

BUDGET AND WORKLOAD HISTORY

	Actual 2003-04	Budget 2004-05	Estimate 2004-05	Proposed 2005-06
Appropriation	96,259,224	100,802,968	100,194,582	104,436,782
Departmental Revenue	82,481,186	87,328,206	86,035,088	89,700,112
Local Cost	13,778,038	13,474,762	14,159,494	14,736,670

Workload Indicators

Non-Federal Annual Paid Cases	14,232	14,148	14,641	14,556
Non-Federal Avg Paid Cases per Month	1,186	1,179	1,220	1,213
Non-Federal Avg Monthly Aid per Case	\$1,483	\$1,602	\$1,535	\$1,581
Federal Annual Paid Cases	43,131	42,216	42,671	42,672
Federal Avg Paid Cases per Month	3,594	3,518	3,556	3,556
Federal Avg Monthly Aid per Case	\$1,712	\$1,825	\$1,796	\$1,885

Foster Care caseload has experienced a decline in recent years, partly due to cases shifting from the Foster Care program into the Kin-Gap program. As a result, the 2004-05 budget was prepared with the anticipation that caseload would continue to decline.

A sudden increase in cases during the 2nd quarter of 2004-05 has prompted a reassessment of original projections. While caseload has steadily decreased since that time, it is estimated that overall caseload numbers will be slightly more than those included in the 2004-05 budget.

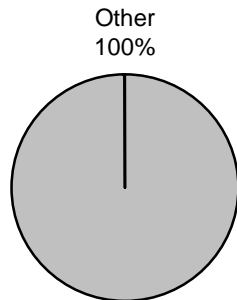
Costs for these cases continue to increase. This is due to the severe statewide shortage of foster family homes and intensive treatment facilities for seriously troubled children. These children are being placed in higher cost foster family agencies and group homes. The average grant for 2004-05 was budgeted to increase 7% from the previous year. It is now estimated that the cost per case will increase only 4% in the current year.

Additional revenue of \$700,000 is projected as a result of child support collection reimbursements. This revenue was not included in the 2004-05 budget because the Governor proposed that the state retain the county share of child support collections in his 2004-05 budget proposals. The final state budget restored these reimbursements to counties.

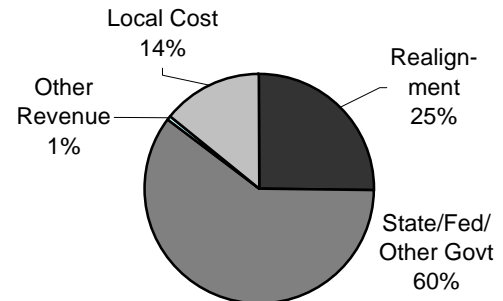


Local cost is projected to exceed budget as a result of shifting some realignment revenue to budget unit AAB SED in an effort to keep that budget unit within local cost targets. This will allow HSS to remain within local cost targets in the overall subsistence payment budget units for 2004-05.

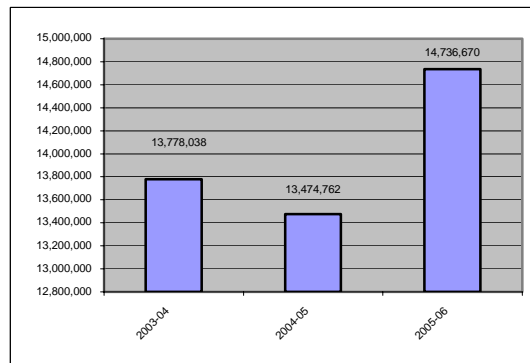
2005-06 BREAKDOWN BY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY



2005-06 BREAKDOWN BY FINANCING SOURCE



2005-06 LOCAL COST TREND CHART



GROUP: Human Services System
DEPARTMENT: AFDC - FOSTER CARE
FUND: General

BUDGET UNIT: AAB BHI
FUNCTION: Public Assistance
ACTIVITY: Aid Programs

ANALYSIS OF 2005-06 BUDGET

	A	B	C	D	B+C+D E	F Department Recommended Funded Adjustments (Schedule A)	E+F G
	2004-05 Year-End Estimates	2004-05 Final Budget	Cost to Maintain Current Program Services	Board Approved Adjustments	Board Approved Base Budget		2005-06 Proposed Budget
Appropriation							
Other Charges	99,094,582	99,702,968	6,602,454	-	106,305,422	(2,851,940)	103,453,482
Transfers	1,100,000	1,100,000	-	-	1,100,000	(116,700)	983,300
Total Appropriation	100,194,582	100,802,968	6,602,454	-	107,405,422	(2,968,640)	104,436,782
Departmental Revenue							
Realignment	24,624,335	28,188,507	279,594	-	28,468,101	(1,938,431)	26,529,670
State, Fed or Gov't Aid	59,610,753	59,139,699	4,260,952	-	63,400,651	(930,209)	62,470,442
Other Revenue	1,800,000	-	800,000	-	800,000	(100,000)	700,000
Total Revenue	86,035,088	87,328,206	5,340,546	-	92,668,752	(2,968,640)	89,700,112
Local Cost	14,159,494	13,474,762	1,261,908	-	14,736,670	-	14,736,670

Foster Care caseload has experienced a decline in recent years, partly due to cases shifting from the Foster Care program into the Kin-Gap program. After experiencing unanticipated caseload increases in the first half of 2004-05 the department is projecting that the decline trend will slow in 2005-06. Federal cases are projected to



remain stable at the actual 2004-05 monthly average number of cases. Non-federal cases are estimated to remain steady at the projected June 2005 caseload.

It is projected that the costs for these cases will continue to increase. The average cost per case in 2005-06 is projected to increase approximately 4% over the actual costs being experienced in 2004-05.

Additional revenue of \$700,000 is projected as a result of Child Support Collection reimbursements. This revenue was not included in the 2004-05 budget because the Governor proposed that the state retain the county share of child support collections in his 2004-05 budget proposals. The final state budget restored these reimbursements to counties.

DEPARTMENT: AFDC - FOSTER CARE
FUND: General
BUDGET UNIT: AAB BHI

SCHEDULE A

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED FUNDED ADJUSTMENTS

Brief Description of Program Adjustment	Budgeted Staffing	Appropriation	Departmental Revenue	Local Cost
1. Foster Care Appropriation Resulting from a decreased caseload projection. At the time of the 2004-05 projection, caseload had experienced a very large jump in October 2004. Caseload has since been declining steadily, and is projected to be lower than originally estimated.		(2,851,940)	-	(2,851,940)
2. State Realignment Decreased caseload projection resulting in decrease of costs. At the time of the 2005-06 projection, caseload had experienced a very large jump in October 2004. Caseload has since been declining steadily, and is projected to be lower than originally estimated. Also, CalWORKs Incentive funds are now being used to reimburse the Probation Dept for placement costs and case management services for youth placed at the Fouts Springs.		-	(1,938,431)	1,938,431
3. State Revenue Decreased caseload projection resulting in decrease of costs decrease of state reimb. At the time of the 2005-06 projection, caseload had experienced a very large jump in October 2004. Caseload has since been declining steadily, and is projected to be lower than originally estimated. Whether or not reporting errors discovered after the implementation of C-IV effected the caseload numbers is still undetermined.		-	(584,409)	584,409
4. Federal Revenue Decreased caseload projection resulting in decrease of costs and decrease of federal reimb. At the time of the 2005-06 projection, caseload had experienced a very large jump in October 2004. Caseload has since been declining steadily, and is projected to be lower than originally estimated. Whether or not reporting errors discovered after the implementation of C-IV effected the caseload numbers is still undetermined.		-	(1,329,100)	1,329,100
5. State - Aid for Children Incentive funds used for Fouts Springs (8665). Paid for in previous years with realignment funds.		-	983,300	(983,300)
6. Reimb. To Probation for Fouts Springs Facility At time of the 2005-06 projection, HSS had reimb. Probation \$1.1 mil per year. It is now projected to be only \$983,300.		(116,700)	-	(116,700)
7. Welfare Reimb. Child Support Collections Child Support Collections estimated to be \$100,000 less than at time of 2005-06 projection.		-	(100,000)	100,000
Total	-	(2,968,640)	(2,968,640)	-

